

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 /044 W

----- 068213

R 170827Z DEC 75

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8427

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

FBIS OKINAWA

C O N F I D E N T I A L HONG KONG 14872

WARNING NOTICE-SENSITIVE INTELLIGENCE SOURCES AND METHODS  
INVOLVED

NOT RELEASABLE TO FOREIGN NATIONALS

CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: XGDS-2

TAGS: PFOR CH

SUBJ: FEI I-MIN COMMENTS ON PRESIDENT FORD'S VISIT

1. HONG KONG TA KUNG PAO PUBLISHER FEI MI-MIN IN DECEMBER 17  
CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN OFFICERS EXPRESSED GENERAL  
SATISFACTION WITH THE FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE OF THE VISIT  
BUT WAS PAINED AS HE ATTEMPTED TO EXPLAIN THAT THE CHINSE  
HARD LINE WAS SOMETIMES MISUNDERSTOOD BECAUSE IT WAS  
PRESENTED SO RIGIDLY. HE SEEMED TO PUT THIS POINT ACROSS  
WITH SPECIAL CARE AS THOUGH THERE WERE SOME MISTAKEN  
VIEWS WHICH HAD TO BE CORRECTED.

2. FEI NOTED THAT THE FORD VISIT WAS RELAXED AND PAID  
PARTICULAR ATTENTION TO STRESSING THA THIS WAS INCREASINGLY  
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TRUE AS THE VISIT WORE ON. FEI SEEMDD SOMEWHAT CONCERNED

THAT PRESS INTERPRETATION OF THE EARLY STAGES OF THE VISIT HAD GIVEN AN OPPOSITE IMPRESSION, AND HE SOUGHT TO COUNTER THIS BY RELATING ANECDOTES FROM BOTH THE NIXON AND TANAKA VISITS (WHICH HE COVERED), PORTRAYING A GRADUAL RELAXATION IN THE VISIT ATMOSPHERE AFTER INITIAL UNCERTAINTY AND TENSION. FEI CHARACTERIZED THE FORD VISIT AS HAVING THE SAME SIGNIFICANCE AS THE 1972 NIXON AND TANAKA VISITS. HE EXPRESSED PLEASURE AT THE "FRANK" AND "FRIENDLY" EXCHANGE OF VIEWS.

3. FEI VOLUNTEERED THE VIEW THE PRESIDENT'S HONOLULU SPEECH WAS A DIRECT REFLECTION OF HIS TALKS IN PEKING WITH CHINESE LEADERS. BOTH FEI AND NCNA REPRESENTATIVE SZETO KUNG, IN RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH CONGEN OFFICERS, HAVE INDICATED SATISFACTION WITH WHAT THEY PERCEIVE AS A TOUGHER US STANCE VIS-A-VIS MOSCOW IN THE PAST FEW WEEKS.  
CROSS

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## Message Attributes

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